

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A barrel hinge, comprising:

a female barrel portion having a sidewall with an aperture formed therein, a length, two ends, and an outside surface, and an axial bore, having an interior wall surface and a diameter, the axial bore extending from end to end;

a first and second male barrel portion, each male barrel portion having a main body portion with an outer surface, and a pin extension, the pin extension having a pin length and pin diameter, the pin extensions having ends, the pin diameter being sized to be rotatably received within the axial bore of the female barrel portion, wherein the sum of the pin lengths of the pin extensions of the first and second male barrel portions is less than the length of the axial bore of the female barrel portion, such that when the pin extensions of the first and second male barrel portion are fully inserted into the interior bore of the female barrel portion, a cavity is defined by the space between the ends of the first and second pin extensions and the interior bore, which cavity is in the vicinity of the aperture in the sidewall of the female barrel portion; and

a lubricant fitting affixed within the aperture in the sidewall of the female barrel portion.

2. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein the two ends of the female barrel portion are beveled where the outer surface meets the two ends, and wherein the main body portions of the male barrel portions are beveled where the pin extensions extend therefrom.

3. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein the aperture in the sidewall of the female barrel portion is threaded and the lubricant fitting is threadably engaged therewith.

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4. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein the main body portion of the male barrel portions and the female barrel portion are cylindrical.

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5. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein the female barrel portion comprises a section of seamless cylindrical tubing.

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6. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein each of the male barrel portions is formed from a section of bar stock with the pin extension portions being formed by machining at one end thereof.

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7. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein each of the male barrel portions is formed from a section of tubing stock with the pin extension portions machined at one end thereof.

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8. The barrel hinge of claim 1, wherein the first and second male barrel portions are identical.

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9. A three-piece barrel hinge, comprising:

a female barrel portion having a length, two ends, and an outside surface, an axial bore with a diameter extending from end to end therethrough, and an aperture formed on a sidewall;

a lubricant fitting placed in the aperture; and

a first and second male barrel portion, each male barrel portion having a pin extension having a pin length, a pin diameter, and a pin end, the pin diameter being sized to be rotatably received within the axial bore of the female barrel portion, wherein when the pin extensions of the first and second barrel portions are inserted into the interior bore of the female barrel portion, the pin ends are spaced apart to define a cavity therebetween, which cavity is in the vicinity of the lubricant fitting.

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10. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein the two ends of the female barrel portion are beveled where the outer surface meets the two ends, and wherein the main body portions of the male barrel portions are beveled where the pin extensions extend therefrom.

11. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein the aperture in the sidewall of the female barrel portion is threaded and the lubricant fitting is threadably engaged therewith.

12. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein the lubricant fitting is press fitted into the aperture in the sidewall of the female barrel portion.

13. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein the main body portion of the male barrel portions and the female barrel portion are cylindrical.

14. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein the female barrel portion comprises a section of seamless cylindrical tubing.

15. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein each of the male barrel portions is formed from a section of bar stock with the pin extension portions being formed at one end thereof.

16. The barrel hinge of claim 9, wherein each of the male barrel portions is formed from a section of tubing stock with the pin extension portions machined at one end thereof.

17. A three-piece barrel hinge, comprising:

a female barrel portion made from a section of seamless tubing having a length, two ends, and an outside surface, an interior bore with a diameter extending from end to end therethrough;

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a first and second male barrel portion, each male barrel portion formed from a single section of material and having a pin extension having a pin length, a pin diameter, and a pin end, the pin diameter being sized to be received within the interior bore of the female barrel portion, wherein when the pin extensions of the first and second barrel portions are inserted into the interior bore of the female barrel portion, the pin ends are spaced apart.